

Madam Speaker, liberals realize the trouble the White House and the DNC are getting into, and they know they have been sold out. The liberals do not want campaign finance reform, they want to change the subject.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Madam Speaker, a bipartisan group of freshmen legislators have crafted a campaign finance reform bill that can pass with strong support from Members on both sides of the aisle.

This is not a radical measure. It is incremental and focuses exclusively on areas of consensus between Republicans and Democrats. No partisan poison pills were included in the bill.

I urge the leadership to bring a measure up that appeals to both sides like this one, not a bill loaded with partisan politics. Madam Speaker, the American people want to see reform, not political games on this floor. It is time to bring up campaign finance reform measures that address the issues we all agree on.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, when the White House was having organized fundraising events in the Lincoln bedroom for Democrat fundraising purposes, when it was raised by Republicans, Democrats said, "You are being partisan."

When the Vice President of the United States raised thousands and thousands of dollars in a Buddhist temple from Buddhist monks and nuns, who had to take vows of poverty but they came up with \$5,000 each, we were called antireligious.

Now, because of some very questionable voting tactics in the California race, we are being dragged into this thing on a race count. You know, fair elections are not the domain of the party that lost, it belongs to everybody, Democrats and Republicans. We have a situation here where files have been subpoenaed.

The legislation that we are having to pass today, which I hope all the Democrats join us in voting for, simply says give us the files so we can get to the bottom of this. We want to know whether it is fair or not, because it is not a Democrat or Republican issue.

#### OUR RIGHT TO PRIVACY IS UNDER ATTACK

(Ms. FURSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FURSE. Madam Speaker, as an immigrant, as a Member of Congress,

as one who won her second race by a very small minority, I want to say that I am appalled that new voters, and especially voters who have Hispanic surnames, are being targeted by the attacks on the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ].

All of us, all of us, our right to privacy, is under attack; and this attack is coming from a man who was not allowed to serve on this floor, Bob Dornan. It is time that the choice of the voters be honored. We who represent the people of our district must reject this attack on our democratic election process. We must reject this resolution. We must support what the voters supported, the election of the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ] to serve the people of her district.

#### MARRIAGE TAX ELIMINATION ACT

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Madam Speaker, let me address the House with a fairly simple question: Do Americans feel that it is fair that our Tax Code imposes a higher tax on married working couples? Do Americans feel it is fair that we tax married couples more than those who live together, with two incomes, outside a marriage? Do Americans feel that it is fair that 21 million average, middle-class married couples pay an average of almost \$1,400 more in taxes than a working couple with identical dual incomes living outside of marriage?

I do not believe so. I believe that the folks back home, those who pay the bills, pay their taxes on time and live by the rules, also believe it is unfair. The marriage tax should be eliminated.

The Marriage Tax Elimination Act, which now enjoys the cosponsorship of 193 Members of this House, both Democrats and Republicans, will eliminate the marriage penalty. My colleagues, I ask for bipartisan support next year and we make it a bipartisan priority to eliminate the marriage tax.

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#### UNITED STATES SHOULD LEAD THE FIGHT TO RID THE WORLD OF LANDMINES

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, 89 nations agreed in Oslo recently to an international treaty to ban landmines. This achievement is the product of years of hard work by humanitarian groups in the United States and around the globe and honors the legacy of the late Princess Diana. Unfortunately, the administration has decided not to sign the Ottawa treaty.

I fear we have missed an historic opportunity to do the right thing. The

United States should lead the fight to rid the world of landmines.

The President said that total landmine ban was a line he could not cross for the safety of our troops. Their safety is of fundamental importance, but there are alternatives to mines that can protect our soldiers.

A child in Angola does not see the line between farm and minefield and does not know where she can safely cross. Every 22 minutes, an innocent civilian is killed or maimed by a landmine.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members and citizens across the country to call on the President to think of that little girl, do the right thing and sign the Ottawa Treaty in December.

#### CALLING INVESTIGATION OF VOTER FRAUD A WITCH HUNT OR ATTACK ON HISPANICS IS UTTER NONSENSE

(Ms. PRYCE of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, never have we heard or seen a more shameless, despicable display of playing the race card from the bottom of the deck than that we are seeing here today with regard to the disputed Sanchez election.

I have heard investigations into voter fraud described as a witch hunt, an attack on all Hispanic voters, and an unprecedented attack on Hispanics throughout the Nation. I have heard our constitutional duty to ensure fair and honest elections characterized as targeting every Hispanic voter as if they did not have the right to vote.

What utter nonsense. Fair and honest elections are not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue. Is the other side really suggesting that voter fraud should not be investigated? Is the other side really suggesting that non-U.S. citizens should be able to vote?

The other side's reckless, irresponsible, and deliberately inflammatory charges are an insult to this great institution, to the American ideal of fair and honest elections.

#### WONDERING WHAT IRS WOULD MAKE OF WHITE HOUSE EXCUSES FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWBREAKING

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, one wonders what the IRS would make of the excuses the White House makes whenever it comes to campaign finance law breaking. How ironic it is that the same administration that has an IRS out of control, an IRS that targets average citizens for political purposes, especially if they happen to work for the White House Travel Office, or used to,